Amount insured on Foreign Traval Scheme

2829. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have imposed further restrictions on Indian travellers who wish to visit foreign countries and has reduced the FTS value;

(b) whether Government is aware that much hardship is caused to a traveller with much reduced amount of foreign exchange and he has to resort to illegal methods to procure foreign money himself;

(c) if so, what are the facts of the above and the reasons for such restrictions; and

(d) how much amount has been spent during the last three years by the Indian tourists under the FTS ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (c) In the light of experience gained in the administration of the Foreign Travel Scheme, Government have rationalised the Scheme by introducing certain changes effective 7th April, 1986. This has been done to conserve foreign exchange and to eliminate the misuse of the facility. This will not cause hardship to a genuine traveller.

(d) The quantum of foreign exchange released to Indian travellers going abroad under FTS during the last three years is as under :—

Year	(Rs. in crores) Quantum of foreign exchange released
1983	90.72
1984	153.37
1985	196.82

Schemes for the supply of drinkiag water to beedi workers

2830. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to be state :

(a) what are the details of the schemes launched by his Ministry for the supply of drinking water and facilities of washing to beedi workers under Beedi Workers Welfare Fund during the current year; and

(b) what are the plans for the year 1987-88 in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 provides that the fund may be used *inter-alia* to meet the expenditure incurred in connection with the provision and improvement of water supplies and facilities for washing. The Act also provides that loan or subsidy may be granted to a State Government, a local authority or an employer for the purpose connected with the welfare of persons engaged in beedi establishments. No request for grant of loan or subsidy has been received from any State Government, local authority or employer for the supply of drinking water and facilities of washing to beedi workers.

Prototype schemes for mica and beedi workers

2831. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of prototype schemes undertaken by his Ministry for mica and beedi workers;

(b) what is the number of Maternity-cum-child Welfare Centres, Chest Clinics, Primary Health Centres and Small Community Centres established in the country for beedi workers alongwith the locations thereof; and

(c) what are the plans for the year 1987-88 in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) A list of Prototype Schemes is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix CXL, Annexure No. 102].

(b) A list of Medical Institutions is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix CXL, Annexure No. 103].

(c) As and when a need arises, necessary amendments in the existing schemes are made and new schemes are introduc-